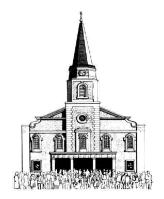


# **NEWSLETTER**

# Parish of St George Hanover Square



St George's Church

### **Grosvenor Chapel**

### March-June 2015: issue 30



It is with great sadness that we learned, just as this edition of the *Parish Newsletter* was going to press, of the death at the age of 93 of Denys Darlow who served as tenth organist and choirmaster of St George's between 1972 and 2000. It is just two months since the demise of Darlow's younger predecessor, Christopher Morris (organist between 1947 and 1972), whose memorial service took place at St George's at the end of January.

A full appreciation of the lives of these two outstanding musicians will appear in the next edition of this Newsletter. It is nevertheless fitting that we reflect, albeit briefly, on the considerable influ-

ence these men exercised on musical life in the second half of the twentieth century: Christopher Morris, the prodigious Anglican church musician and organist of distinction who befriended and mentored a generation of English, Welsh and Scottish composers and whose immensely practical publisher's mind conceived and gave birth to that ubiquitous staple of Anglophone choirs worldwide, Carols for Choirs; and Denys Darlow who not only founded major English festivals celebrating the music of Bach and Handel but who played a profound part, through his performances of works by these Baroque masters and their contemporaries, in our developing understanding of 'early music'.

This year's London Handel Festival - an annual event Darlow founded at St George's back in 1978 - is about to start. Details of the 2015 Festival may be found on pages 11 and 12. But it would surely also have pleased the founder (back in 1952) of the Tilford Bach Festival to know that the London Bach Society's Bach-Fest 2015 will later in the year once again be based at St George's.

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# The Rector, The Revd Roderick Leece, writes:

In the earliest Gospel, St Mark, the final five chapters in a total of sixteen concern the last week of Jesus's life. In other words almost a third of the text concern Holy Week, the Great Week.

The most ancient core is of course the greatest feast of all the Easter Vigil. To which was added - working backwards - the Triduum, the three Holy Days beginning on Maundy Thursday with the celebration of the Lord's Supper. William Kent's beautiful picture of the Last Supper of course gives St George's Church its main focus. The Triduum continues on Good Friday with a celebration of the Lord's Passion and death.

We owe a huge amount to a Gallic woman, Egeria, who wrote about her travels to the Holy Land on pilgrimage around the years 381-384. This is invaluable because by this time in late 4<sup>th</sup>C Palestine, the development of liturgical worship (that is Palm Sunday and Holy Week) had been established and Egeria provides a first hand account of practices and observance of liturgical seasons as they then existed in Jerusalem.

Sites of the biblical events were identified and the appropriate liturgy or service was held in each geographical location. And this gradually extended to the whole year, so that nearby Bethlehem, the place of Jesus's birth was equally a place of pilgrimage after the date of Christmas was finally settled, rather later than in Egeria's time.

Apart from the site of the crucifixion itself, the Holy Sepulchre, there remains to this day a possible site for the garden of Gethsemane. Also the area on the Mount of Olives associated with the Ascension, and most probable of all, the place where the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples in the upper room on Mount Zion.

This idea of liturgical realism of re-enacting in a dynamic way the final days of Christ's life surged throughout Christendom, and remains for Christians today who can partake spiritually in the recreation of Jerusalem and Holy Week in their own parish church. Furthermore, it was this working backwards from Easter to Holy Week that led ultimately to the observance of the whole liturgical year and the seasons we now regard as standard.

Fr Nicolas Stebbing CR will be preaching Holy Week both at St George's and at the Grosvenor Chapel. He comes to us from the Community of the Resurrection at Mirfield and does a lot of work in Zimbabwe supporting embattled churches.

#### Holy week services:

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March (*Remember*, *clocks go forward*) Palm Sunday Liturgy at 11.00am

Monday-Thursday Holy Communion at 5.45pm

Friday 3rd April Good Friday Liturgy of the Passion at 10 am St Matthew's Passion by J.S. Bach at 2.30pm (with sermon) Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April Easter Day 11am Sung Eucharist with renewal of baptismal yows

Fr Stebbing will preach at St George's on Good Friday and Easter Sunday as well as offering short meditations during a performance of Haydn's The Seven Last Words of Our Saviour on the Cross on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 7pm. Members of the congregation (but regretfully not their guests due to limited space) who wish to attend this concert, or the St Matthew Passion should please inform the Verger, Seamus O'Hare by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March. Contact details on page 16.

Mothering Sunday is on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March and all children and families as well as children from our St George's Hanover Square School are warmly invited to join us for what are thrice yearly services where children are involved in leading worship/reading, and the sermon geared to families with children at the Sung Eucharist at 11am. Followed by customary refreshments. Whitsunday on 24<sup>th</sup> May is of course another Sunday when we extend a similar invitation to celebrate Pentecost.

**St George's Patronal Festival** will be kept this year on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April and the Sung Eucharist will be followed by a festive reception.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April in St. George's at 6.30pm and is preceded by the Annual Vestry Meeting to elect Churchwardens. Please join us to hear reports and plans for the future.

Rogation Sunday is on 10<sup>th</sup> May and after the Sung Eucharist there will follow the traditional walk around the boundaries of our parish of Mayfair 'Beating the Bounds' and we hope to join together some walkers from both St George's and the Grosvenor Chapel.

Continued on page 15

# Services at St George's

#### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March Second Sunday in Lent

8.30am Holy Communion
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Papae Marcelli (Palestrina)
Lent Prose
O Lord in thy Wrath (Gibbons)
Aus tiefer Not BWV 686 (Bach)

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Midday Prayer 5.45pm Holy Communion

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March** 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Holy Communion

#### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March Third Sunday in Lent

8.30am Holy Communion
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Mass for four voices (Byrd)
Lent Prose
Purge me O Lord (Tallis)
Ut re mi fa sol la (Byrd)

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Midday Prayer

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March** 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Midday Prayer 5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March St Gregory the Great, Bp of Rome, 604 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Midday Prayer Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March Fourth Sunday in Lent

8.30am Holy Communion
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Mass in G (Schubert)
Lent Prose
Ave Maria (Bruckner)
Nachspiel (Bruckner

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Midday Prayer

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March** 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March St Edward, King of the West Saxons, 978 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Midday Prayer 5.45pm Holy Communion

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March** 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Midday Prayer

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March** 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Holy Communion

#### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March Passion Sunday

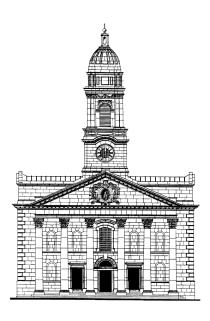
8.30am Holy Communion
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Simile est regnum (Victoria)
Lent Prose
Crucifixus (Lotti)
Herzlich tut mich verlangen
BWV 727 (Bach)

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Midday Prayer

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March** 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March The Annunciation of the BVM 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Midday Prayer 5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Midday Prayer



**Friday 27**<sup>th</sup> **March** 8.45am Morning Calm 12.10pm Holy Communion

#### Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March Palm Sunday

8.30am Holy Communion
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Brevis in D minor (Mozart)
Passion according to St Matthew
(Lassus)
Pueri Hebraeorum (Victoria)
Valet will ich dir geben BWV 735

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March Monday in Holy Week 12.10pm Midday Prayer 5.45pm Midday Prayer

(Bach)

Tuesday 31st March
Tuesday in Holy Week
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion
7.00pm Seven Last Words of
Christ (Haydn)
(ticket only: Handel Festival box
office: 01460 54660
For further details see page 14)

Wednesday 1st April Wednesday in Holy Week 12.10pm Midday Prayer 5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April Maundy Thursday 12.10pm Midday Prayer 5.45pm Holy Communion Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April Good Friday

10.00am Good Friday Liturgy 2.30pm Vespers Preacher: The Revd Nicolas Steb-

St Matthew Passion (J S Bach)

bing CR

(ticket only: Handel Festival box office: 01460 54660

For further details see page 14)

#### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April **EASTER DAY**

8.30am Holy Communion 11.00am Sung Eucharist Celebrant & Preacher: The Revd Nicolas Stebbing CR Coronation Mass (Mozart) Christus vincit Hallelujah (Handel) Sun Dance (Chilcott)

Monday 6th April No services

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 12.10om Midday Prayer

Wednesday 8th April 12.10pm Midday Prayer 5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 9th April 12.10 pm Midday Prayer

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 12.10pm Holy Communion

#### Sunday 12th April First Sunday after Easter

8.30am Holy Communion 11.00am Sung Eucharist Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector Whitlock in G Christus vincit Sing joyfully (Byrd) Festive March (Smart)

Monday 13th April 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 14th April 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 15th April 12.10pm Midday Prayer 5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 17th April 12.10pm Holy Communion Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April Second Sunday after Easter

8.30am Holy Communion 11.00am Sung Eucharist Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector Missa sine nomine (Hassler) Ego sum panis vivus (Victoria) Prelude & Fugue in G BWV 541 (Bach)

Monday 20th April 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 21st April 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 12.10pm Midday Prayer 5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 24th April 12.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April St George's Patronal Festival 8.30am Holy Communion

11.00am Sung Eucharist Celebrant: The Rector Preacher: Williams in D

Anthem for St George (le Fleming) Paean (le Fleming)

Monday 27th April 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 28th April 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 29th April 12.10pm Midday Prayer 5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 1st May Ss Philip & James, Apostles 12.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May Fourth Sunday after Easter

8.30am Holy Communion 11.00am Sung Eucharist Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector Missa Brevis St Joannis de Deo (Havdn) Christus vincit O for a closer walk with God (Stanford) Grand Jeu (Du Mage)

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 5th May 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May St John the Evangelist ante Portam Latinam 12.10om Midday Prayer 5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 7th May 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 8th May Julian of Norwich. Spiritual Writer, c 1417 12.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May Fifth Sunday after Easter **Rogation Sunday** 

8.30am Holy Communion 11.00am Sung Eucharist Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector Missa Iste Confessor (Palestrina) Os iusti (Bruckner) Chant de joie (Langlais) Beating of the Bounds

Monday 11th May **Rogation Day** 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May **Rogation Day** 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May **Rogation Day** 12.10om Midday Prayer 5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May **ASCENSION DAY** 

12.10pm Holy Communion

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 12.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 17th May **Sunday after Ascension** 

8.30am Holy Communion 11.00am Sung Eucharist Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector Missa Ascendens Christus (Victoria) God is gone up (Finzi) Finale from Sunday Music (Eben)

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May St Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, Restorer of Monastic Life, 988 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 12.10pm Midday Prayer 5.45pm Holy Communion

**Thursday 21**st **May** 5.45pm Midday Prayer

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 12.10pm Holy Communion

#### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May Whit Sunday

8.30am Holy Communion
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Cantate Domino (Lobo)
Loquebantur variis linguis (Tallis)
Praeludium in G minor BuxWV 149
(Buxtehude)

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May St Augustine, First Archbp of Canterbury, 605 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May The Venerable Bede, Monk of Jarrow, Scholar, 735 Ember Day 12.10pm Midday Prayer 5.45pm Holy Communion

**Thursday 28**<sup>th</sup> **May** 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May Ember Day 12.10pm Holy Communion

#### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May Trinity Sunday

8.30am Holy Communion
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Spatzenmesse (Mozart)
The heavens are telling (Haydn)
Gloria tibi Trinitas (Bull)

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 12.10pm Midday Prayer Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 12.10om Midday Prayer 5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June St Boniface (Wynfrith) of Crediton, Martyr, 754 12.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June First Sunday after Trinity

8.30am Holy Communion
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Stanford in C
Ave verum corpus (Elgar)
Imperial March (Elgar)

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 12.10om Midday Prayer 5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June St Barnabas, the Apostle 12.10pm Holy Communion

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June 12.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June Second Sunday after Trinity

8.30am Holy Communion
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Mass in E flat (Rheinberger)
Beati quorum via (Stanford)
Allegro assai vivace
from Sonata No 1 (Mendelssohn)

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June St Alban, first British Martyr, c250 12.10om Midday Prayer 5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 12.10pm Holy Communion Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June Third Sunday after Trinity

8.30am Holy Communion
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Brevis (Palestrina)
Thy word is a lantern (Purcell)
Lobe den Herren (Walther)

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June The Birth of John the Baptist 12.10om Midday Prayer 5.45pm Holy Communion

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June** 12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 12.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June Fourth Sunday after Trinity

8.30am Holy Communion
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Brevis (Lennox Berkeley)
If ye love me (Tallis)
Paen (Leighton)

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June St Peter, the Apostle 12.10pm Holy Communion

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 12.10pm Midday Prayer



# From Ashes to the Living Font: Lent to Easter.

#### Fr Richard Fermer writes:

ent invites us on a journey. ✓ Some journeys we make can be quite haphazard: a stroll in the countryside; a care-free tour of a particular region, with no designated itinerary. The joy is just to roam. Lent is not quite like that: it is a journey with a purpose, with an end, namely, to prepare us for the great journey that Jesus makes during His Passion and in His Resurrection. Yet, at the same time, there is no cartographic map, with clear stopping points on the way and measures of progress along a designated route. We are, after all, meant to be in the desert! Rather, it is more of an inner journey. How can we be ready to follow Jesus on His great journey, if we are not prepared ourselves? Like those forty-days of Jesus in the desert, Lent is not so much about how much terrain is covered, as our ability to discern God's will in our lives. That can often take us through a considerable degree of disorientation, as I am sure Jesus himself felt in the desert.

The three traditional elements of Lenten practice (Mark 6. 1-6, 16-21) - almsgiving, prayer and fasting -mean that any inner journey of Lent can never be mere intro-

versions. Giving, prayer and fasting, involve us in real relationships to the world around us. At the same time, Lent does require a contemplative reflectiveness on those relationships, and our attitudes, dispositions and motivations towards them. None of the practices are to be merely mechanical or about show or function. These practices take us out of ourselves and towards God, in an engagement with the world. So, in giving, we think of the world beyond ourselves that merits our attention. Giving generates humility, as we realise that we only give what we have already been given. It stimulates selfless action: giving that counts neither the cost, nor the reward. In this, we find ourselves imitating and participating in how God is, how His love works and so are changed by it.

Likewise in prayer, once we move beyond prayer as merely the personal cry of last resort, we discover that it leads us not only into a great solidarity with and compassion for the world around us, but a truly attentive listening to God. In true prayer, we prepare a space for God to indwell us, and so change us. We may never hear verbal responses to our prayer - God does not man the telephone lines- but we will find that in the light of the space created in prayer, we will begin to see ourselves more truthfully and recognise how, slowly and unexpectedly, things just slot into place, as the hand of the Invisible Healer does its work.

Fasting is very much about the relationship of spirit, mind and body. It trains us to distinguish our needs from our wants. When we fast or abstain we give ourselves the chance to discover what our real needs are. We detoxify the insensibility that has built up in us through our taking things for granted, being controlled by our habits and always grasping what we desire. Resensitised by fasting, our food is

now treated as a God-given gift, to be enjoyed with temperance and discernment. We know that the cultivation of such a sensibility has a much wider impact on the earth than merely the tedium of our daily culinary routine. It relates to how we treat animals, how food is produced, how it is shared and distributed in the world at large.

With all these practices, then, a space is created for God to be God again in our lives; for the creation to be God's creation again, and to be delighted in by us; and, indeed, for us, to be ourselves again, beloved children of God. So in Lent we hold two things together. First, we recall the story of how God loves us, how He forgives us, how He wants the best for us, like the father of the prodigal son. Yet, equally, Lent is a story about how that world, and we too, rejected that love. Of course, in Holy Week and at Easter we see that God refuses to be put off by our rejection. Nonetheless, the world is still marked by that rejection. We cannot straightforwardly affirm the world, or even ourselves for that matter, as it and we now are. As Geoffrey Preston O.P. once put it: "We have to share in God's "yes" to the world: but that "Yes" is always for us a "Yes, but"."(Hallowing the Time, p. 71) Fasting is an example of the "but". At the same time, fasting is part of a larger "yes", for it is a sign of our expectation of the feast that is to come in the new creation. When we abstain in Lent, the negation is not the point. Rather we should be motivated by an affirmation, namely, that we are preparing for a "Yes" to God and His good creation, preparing to sing the "Alleluia" of Easter Day!

### Services at Grosvenor Chapel

In addition to the Sunday Sung Eucharist detailed here, a said Eucharist is celebrated each Thursday morning at 8.00am and every day (Monday to Friday) Daily Prayer is said at 12.30pm.

#### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March Second Sunday of Lent

11.00am Sung Eucharist Preacher: The Revd Neil Bunker Missa Congratulamini mihi (Guerrero) Salvator Mundi (Tallis)

#### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March Third Sunday of Lent

11.00am Sung Eucharist Preacher: The Revd Dr Richard Fermer Missa Qual'e el piu (Palestina) Adolescentulus sum ego (Mundy)

#### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March Fourth Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday

11.00am Sung Eucharist Preacher: The Revd Dr Richard Fermer Communion Service in E (Darke) As truly as God is our Father (Mathias)

#### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March Fourth Sunday of Lent

11.00am Sung Eucharist Preacher: The Revd Dr Richard Fermer Missa je prens en gres (Lassus) O vos homnes (White)

#### Sunday 29<sup>nd</sup> March Palm Sunday

10:45 Exchange of Palms with Farm Street Church
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Preacher:
The Revd Nicolas Stebbing CR
Hosanna to the Son of David
(Weelkes)
Missa Bell' Amfitrit' altera (Lassus)
St Matthew Passion (Victoria)
Christus factus est (Bruckner)

#### Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April Maundy Thursday

7.00pm
Solemn Mass of the Last Supper Preacher:
The Revd Nicolas Stebbing CR Missa Brevis (Palestrina)
Ave verum corpus (Lassus)
Ubi caritas (Duruflé)
The Lamentation of Jeremiah (Tallis)

#### Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April Good Friday

12.00 noon
The Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
Preacher:

The Revd Nicolas Stebbing CR The St John Passion (Plainsong) Crux fidelis (John of Portugal) The Reproaches (Sanders) Tenebrae factae sunt (Poulenc)

#### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April Easter Day 6.00am Dawn Mass

Preacher:
The Revd Nicolas Stebbing CR
11.00 Sung Eucharist
(with orchestra)
Preacher:
The Revd Dr Richard Fermer
O sons and daughters
(Walford Davies)
Mass in C (Schubert)
Surrexit pastor bonus (Schütz)
Concerto for two trumpets (Vivaldi)

# Sunday 12th April The Second Sunday of Easter

11.00am Sung Eucharist Hymns and organ music

#### Sunday 19th April The Third Sunday of Easter

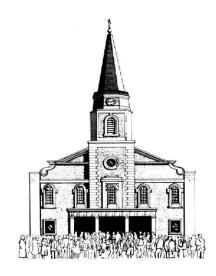
11.00am Sung Eucharist Missa Paschalis (Lassus) Christus resurgens ex mortuis (Phillips)

#### Sunday 26th April The Fourth Sunday of Easter

11.00am Sung Eucharist Missa Brevis in C K259 (Mozart) Alleluia, I heard a voice (Weelkes)

#### Sunday 3rd May The Fifth Sunday of Easter

11.00am Sung Eucharist Missa Brevis (Hobson) Vinea mea electa (Poulenc)



#### Sunday 10th May The Sixth Sunday of Easter

11.00am Sung Eucharist Missa Octavi Toni (Lassus) Sing joyfully (Byrd) Ubi caritas et amor (Duruflé)

### Thursday 14th May Ascension Day

7.00pm Sung Eucharist Missa Ascendens Christus (Victoria) Ascendit Deus (Phillips)

#### Sunday 17th May The Sunday after Ascension

11.00am Sung Eucharist Missa Collegium Regale (Howells) God is gone up (Finzi) O taste and see (Vaughan Williams)

#### Sunday 24th May Pentecost

11.00am Sung Eucharist Missa Brevis:Tongues of Fire (Cecilia McDowall) Loquebantur variis linguis (Tallis)

#### Sunday 31st May Trinity Sunday

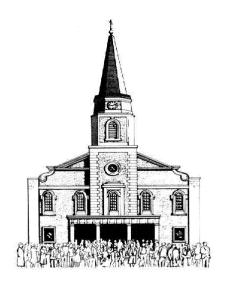
11.00am Sung Eucharist Communion Service in C & F (Stanford) A Hymn to the Trinity (Leighton)

#### Sunday 7th June The First Sunday after Trinity

11.00am Sung Eucharist Missa Pater noster (Palestrina) O sacrum convivium (Tallis)

#### Sunday 14th June The Second Sunday after Trinity

11.00am Sung Eucharist
Mass for Four Voices
(Monteverdi)
Jesus Christ, the apple tree
(Poston)



# Sunday 21st June The Third Sunday after Trinity 11.00am Sung Eucharist Missa S Johannes de Deo (Haydn)

Ascendente in naviculum (de Wert)

# Sunday 28th June The Fourth Sunday after Trinity 11.00am Sung Eucharist

11.00am Sung Eucharist Mass for Four Voices (Byrd) Siderum rector (Byrd)



#### **Lent Course**

#### Citizens of a Global City

The Lent Course in 2015, shared between St John's Hyde Park, St George's Hanover Square and the Grosvenor Chapel, will be focused on the theme of some of the challenges that living in a global city, such as London, present, and what Christian thought and practice might have to say in addressing them. We are also seeking to invite members of our local communities to respond to some of the talks so that our Lent Course is not merely an "in house" Christian discussion group, but seeking engagement with the local community. The challenges we are addressing have been identified as applying to our two parishes, if not exclusively so.

Details will be found on the facing page.

#### Citizens of a Global City: The Challenges of Lent

### The Revd Canon Alistair Macdonald-Radcliff writes:-

The World has just made a fundamental transition, as the percentage of the global population that lives in cities instead of the countryside has risen past 50%. This means that the future for mankind is increasingly urban which poses both challenges and opportunities for the cultural, spiritual and religious context of our lives.

We live amidst the pressures of a profound globalization that risks submerging identities in an amorphous whole but which has led, in response, to the renewal of local and regional identities that can sometimes even seem to compete with those of nation states. In the midst of all this, has come a resurgence of cities as a focus of identity with a prominence perhaps unequalled since the times of the city states in Renaissance Europe or ancient Greece.

Among these new dynamics we find overlapping and competing identities which play out where we live and work, as the global and the local come together. Nowhere is this more true than in this area of London which is Mayfair. It is home to people from all over the globe of widely different cultures and faiths engaging in an astonishing array of activities from hospitality to high finance and everything from selling fast cars and luxury goods to magazines and pianos in between. Within this array of diversity it is important for the Church not only to be present, but actively reaching out to explore our many subcommunities and different identities while also encouraging us to remember our spiritual roots and to be grounded in faith

In a Mayfair which is fast becoming a global village where the world comes to London, there is a clear need to find ways of fostering dialogue and to help promote greater cohesion, harmony and integration: in short 'to build community' and understand each other better. The Lent course for 2015 explores what it means to be citizens of a global city and aims to help us reflect on several dimensions of the issues raised. These will range from how we think theologically about the concept of the city, through to the role of money in the good life, and the practical impact of living out multiple identities and living within the tension between the local and the global. We conclude by looking even at the challenge of avoiding the soulless in the architecture of the lived environment. All this promises to be both a fascinating and rewarding part of Lent. To coin a phrase: if variety is the spice of life then here is plenty for a Lent that will be far from bland.

Canon Alistair Macdonald-Radcliff, assists at the Grosvenor Chapel and works in the domain of interfaith relations.



# "Citizens of a Global City"

Wednesday Evening Talks during March in the Chapel Room, at the Grosvenor Chapel, 6.45pm light buffet supper, 7.15pm Talk.

We are seeking to address some of the challenges that face our local area that come from being part of a global city.

#### Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March "Identity in the Global City"

How has Mayfair changed in the last 20/30 years? How do we understand our identity in the context of a diverse and plural city?

Panel Discussion: Mike Dunn, Vice-Chair of the Mayfair Residents' Group & the Mayfair Neighbourhood Forum; Selma Day, Editor of the Mayfair Times; Lord Paul Boateng, member of the Chapel and senior politician; Sangeeta Bahadur, Director of the Nehru Centre, Mayfair; Baba Epaga, Director of "EMC3", (Events and Entertainments Company); chaired by Canon Alistair Macdonald-Radcliff, Director General, World Dialogue Council.

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March
"How much is enough? Work, money and the good life"
Dr. Edward Skidelsky
Department of Sociology, Philosophy and Anthropology at Exeter University
Response: tba

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March "The Global in the Local" Challenges and Opportunities of a global city. Dawood Azami

Senior Broadcast Journalist, BBC World Service, London, a Young Global Leader, World Economic Forum, and Visiting Lecturer, Univ. of Westminster. Response: Will Bax, Grosvenor Estates, and *tba* 

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March
"Avoiding the Soulless"

How can architecture, planning and property valuation shape community? *tba*Response: Haydn Cooper, Grosvenor Estates and *tba* 



#### **Prisons Mission**

John Plummer (Prisons Mission Co-ordinator) & John Rowland write:

#### **Key facts**

- 85,000 men, women and children are remanded or serving custodial sentences in England and Wales
- This has doubled in 20 years and is extremely high by EU standards.
- The National Offender Management Service employs 44,000 staff at 131 prisons
- The cost of each prison place ranges from £35,000 to £200,000 p.a.
- There are 14 prisons in the London region
- More than 15,000 Londoners are held in prisons, many far from home

hurches Together in Westminster (CTiW) agreed to a pilot of a new Prisons Mission at its 2014 AGM. SGHS has been instrumental in driving the Mission forward as a founder member. Three members of our congregation have participated, along with John Plummer, who is the Mission's coordinator. We would like to report on the progress we have made in the first year, and give a sense of what the mission involves - particularly for those who may be considering getting involved themselves.

It is worth saying at the outset that it is somewhat different from other, more familiar forms of mission such as hospital visiting schemes. Most of us have some personal experience of hospitals and they are not generally considered hostile or strange places. Hospitals do not operate under alien rules and, unlike prisons, are not 'out of sight and out of

mind'. Despite this, participants have found that an environment, which seemed very strange and even hostile in the beginning, is becoming more familiar and a little less threatening. In fact, it is proving for participants to be a practical way to minister to a vulnerable part of our society.

Mission participants have been regularly visiting our pilot prison, HMP Wandsworth, offering support to members of its chaplaincy team. This support can involve attending worship in the prison chapel, assisting with bible studies, or visiting prisoners on a wing at the request of one of the chaplains. Some participants have received training and entered a formal befriending programme. Befrienders mentor prisoners before and after discharge, help them with housing and employment and support their resettlement in the world outside. One member is advising new prison volunteers on the functions of magistrates' courts as part of the induction process for new visitors.

Our support is important and valued. Chaplaincy teams function under considerable pressure. They have a statutory duty to visit, every day, all prisoners who are officially designated as especially vulnerable. These include men who are considered to be at risk of suicide and self -harm. Chaplains have particular responsibilities in respect of the death of offenders, or those who experience bereavement. This has become an increasingly heavy load as suicides in prisons have increased sharply in recent years. Staff cuts in the prison service are having a severe impact on the wellbeing of prison officers and prisoners. Inmates are locked in cells for up to 23 hours each day, causing yet more frustration and aggression. It is against this background that the Prisons Mission endeavours to support chaplains providing such important pastoral care.

As well as supporting at the coalface, the Prisons Mission also seeks to foster greater understanding of our prisons amongst church congregations. Most members of the public, including priests and churchgoing Christians, know very little about life behind the walls of British prisons, despite the fact that record numbers are being sent to prison in our name. At St George's we have tried to achieve this through regular reports to the PCC and notices about developments at services. Importantly, we also marked Prisons Week at SGHS in November last year. The Prisons Mission compiled and circulated a new collection of prayers and suggested sermons about prisons for use by CTiW member churches. This was used during a special service on 16th November and prayers were led by Prisons Mission participants. This provoked many questions from worshippers, the most common of which was: "What can I do to help?"

It is an important question. In the coming the coming weeks the three pilot churches (SGHS, St James's Piccadilly and Farm Street Jesuit Centre) will be invited to increase the number of participants from three to six. We will therefore be looking for more volunteers from SGHS to join the Mission. If you are interested in finding out more, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Looking forward, three or four more churches will be invited to formally engage with the initiative. We would also like to extend the project to Pentonville and Wormwood Scrubs prisons, with discussions currently underway with their chaplains. If the rate of progress is maintained, it might be feasible to extend the mission to others among the 14 London prisons, including those at which children and women are detained. We hope that prison chaplains will sometimes attend member churches either preach to discuss prison issues. Finally, with the continuing support of our congregation, we can become better informed about the prisons system. We may even one day be proud that our church has been twinned with one of London's huge prisons.

(A copy of the report on the Prisons Mission which was presented to the CTiW AGM can be found at www.ctiw.london)



#### LONDON HANDEL FESTIVAL 2015

**DIARY OF EVENTS** AT ST GEORGE'S & GROSVENOR CHAPEL



All performances take place at St George's unless otherwise specified.

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March

1.10pm Organ recital: Simon Williams 4.00pm Talk on Semele by Dr Ruth Smith A performance of Semele takes place at the Queen Elizabeth Hall at 7.00pm

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March **1.00pm** Lunchtime concert: Trinity Laban Baroque Ensemble

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 1.00pm Lunchtime concert: Guildhall School Cantata Ensemble

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March

1.00pm Lunchtime recital: Susanna Fairbairn 7.00pm Film: God rot Tonbridge Wells

Tuesday 17th March **Grosvenor Chapel** 

1.10pm Organ recital: Weston Jennings

St George's

**7.00pm:** Catone in Utica (Handel)

Thursday 19th March

7.00pm Solomon's Knot & Les Passions de l'Arne

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March

1.10pm Organ recital: Robin Walker

Wednesday 25th March

1.00pm Lunchtime recital: Neil McLean & Laurence Cummings

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March

1.00pm Lunchtime concert: Royal College of Music Baroque

Friday 27th March

1.00pm Lunchtime recital: Ewa Gubanska

Tuesday 31st March **Grosvenor Chapel** 

1.10pm Lunchtime concert: Grosvenor Chapel Choir

St George's

**7.00pm:** Seven Last Words of Christ (Haydn)

Further details: page 14

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

2.30pm St Matthew Passion (Bach)

Further details: page 14

Tuesday 7th April

1.10pm Organ recital: Andrew Benson-Wilson **7.00pm** The Dragon of Wantley (Lampe)

Wednesday 8th April

1.00pm Lunchtime recital: Maria Valdmaa

7.00pm Red Priest

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April 6.00pm Handel Singing Competition semi-final

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April

1.00pm Lunchtime recital: Timothy Nelson

Monday 13th April

1.00pm Lunchtime recital: Edward Grint

Tuesday 14th April **Grosvenor Chapel** 

1.10pm Organ recital: Richard Hobson

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April

7.00pm Odiessa & Suzana Ograjenšek

Friday 17th April

7.00pm Southbank Sinfonia Baroque

Monday 20th April

7.00pm Handel Singing Competition final

Further information and booking information may be found on the Handel Festival website: www.london-handel-festival.com

# Mayfair Organ Concerts

a weekly series of lunchtime organ concerts at

# St George's Church, Hanover Square &

### **Grosvenor Chapel**

Tuesdays 1.10 – 1.50pm

March 3 St George's

John Keys (St Mary's, Nottingham)

March 10\* St George's

Simon Williams (St George's)

March 17\*

**Grosvenor Chapel** 

Weston Jennings (Organ Scholar, Chelmsford Cathedral) with Apollo Baroque Consort

March 24\* St George's

Robin Walker

(Assistant Director of Music, St George's, Hanover Square)

March 31\*

**Grosvenor Chapel** 

Grosvenor Chapel Choir Music for Holy Week

April 7\*

St George's

Andrew Benson Wilson

April 14\*

**Grosvenor Chapel** 

James Johnstone

(Professor, Guildhall and Trinity Laban)

May 5

St George's

Peter King (Bath Abbey)

May 12

Grosvenor Chapel

Christopher Strange (Organ Scholar, Grosvenor Chapel)

May 19

St George's

Christopher Bragg

May 26

**Grosvenor Chapel** 

Richard Hobson with Moyra Montagu (oboe)

June 2

St George's

Jonathan Bunney

(St Giles in the Fields)

June 9

**Grosvenor Chapel** 

Robin Walker

(Assistant Director of Music,

St George's, Hanover Square)

June 16

St George's

Tim Wakerell (Assistant Organist, New

College, Oxford)

June 23

**Grosvenor Chapel** 

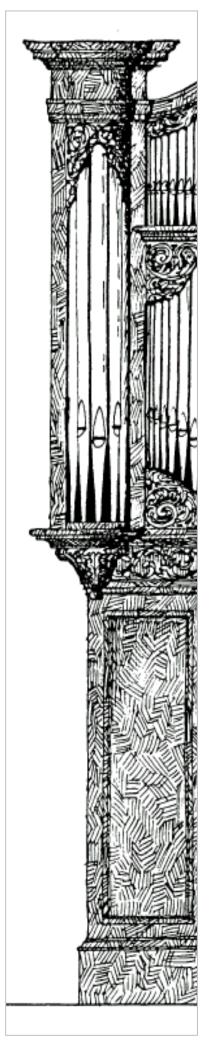
Charles Andrews (Assistant Organist,

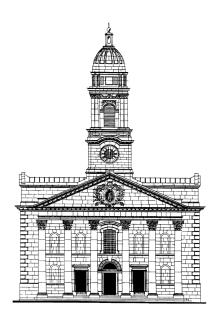
All Saints Margaret Street)

June 29

St George's

Jemima Stephenson (Assistant Director of Music, St Michael's, Cornhill)





#### Help needed

St George's is looking for a flexible, appropriately qualified person to lend a hand in the Vestry for up to six hours a week.

You will need to be IT literate, have some experience of office administration and be able to operate independently.

Precise tasks will be agreed with the successful candidate but are likely to include the maintenance of Gift Aid records, the maintenance of our database and donor records and the processing of returns to the Performing Right Society.

The number and flexibility of working hours will be open to discussion.

Remuneration will be competitive.

If you think you might be interested and would like further information, please be in touch with Stephen Wikner, Parish Administrator whose contact details are on the back page of this Newsletter.

# HAYDN SEVEN STRING QUARTETS, OP 51

'SEVEN STRING QUARTETS, OP 51



Introduzione - Sonata I: Largo Sonata

II: Grave e cantabile Sonata

III: Grave Sonata

IV: Largo Sonata

V: Adagio Sonata

VI: Lento Sonata

VII: Largo - Il Terremoto

REVOLUTIONARY DRAWING ROOM

Adrian Butterfield violin Kathryn Parry violin Rachel Stott viola Ruth Alford cello

The Revolutionary Drawing Room currently celebrating its 25th anniversary, performs Haydn's set of reflective and dramatic movements illustrating the Seven Words of the Saviour on the Cross. Commissioned as a passion for the Cathedral at Cadiz, it was originally scored for full orchestra, and was intended as instrumental music for reflection on the words delivered by the Bishop. Haydn later made arrangements of the piece for string quartet, for fortepiano and eventually also as an oratorio with SATB soloists and choir. The Revolutionary Drawing Room performs the string quartet arrangement with readings.

**TUESDAY 31st MARCH 7.00PM** 

# BACH ST MATTHEW PASSION



Nathan Vale Evangelist

George Humphreys Christus & arias

Anna Dennis soprano

Alexandra Gibson mezzo-soprano

Laurence Cummings conductor

London Handel Orchestra (Adrian Butterfield leader)

Choir of St George's

The London Handel Festival's annual performance of Bach's St Matthew Passion, sung in German and set in the context of Vespers.

FRIDAY 3 APRIL 2.30PM

#### HYDE PARK PLACE ESTATE CHARITY

#### **CIVIL TRUSTEES**

At their meeting on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November, the Civil Trustees of the Hyde Park Place Estate Charity awarded grants totalling £50,435 to the following organisations working in the City of Westminster:

The Salvation Army

**Trinity Hospice** 

**London Music Masters** 

Pimlico Toy Library

Action for Children

Octavia Foundation

Motability

Eden Brunel

Crisis UK

St John's Hospice

Vital Regeneration

The Food Chain

Cardinal Hume Centre

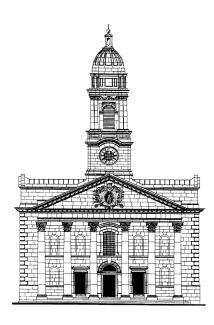
St George's School

St George's Hanover Square - Refreshment Coupons for the Homeless:

The next meeting of the Civil Trustees will be held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February. A further meeting will be held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May (application deadline: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May).

#### **ECCLESIASTICAL TRUSTEES**

A total of £43,385 was awarded in grants at the Ecclesiastical Trustees' meeting held on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, for the benefit of the churches and clergy based in the original historic parish of St George's Hanover Square. The next meeting will be held on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May (application deadline: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May)



Continued from page 2

Dates for diaries:

Marriage Renewal on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July

**Baptism Renewal** on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September

The Royal Society of St George are invited to join us for their Annual Parade Service on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October

Marriage Preparation Day for Engaged Couples arranged jointly with the Grosvenor Chapel on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June.

There are daily prayers in church, Monday - Friday at 12.10pm The Mid Day Office is said on most days, but with the Eucharist on Fridays and Saints Days. Please join us if you are in the area.

#### THE COMPLETE ORGAN WORKS OF J S BACH

On Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays between 24th September and 31st October 2015, Margaret Phillips will perform the complete organ works of Johann Sebastian Bach on St George's Richards Fowkes organ. Full details of these recitals will be given in the July edition of this Newsletter.

### PARISH OF ST GEORGE, HANOVER SQUARE

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